

Michigan Rehabilitation Services
An Investment That Works!





People with Disabilities + MRS

= Employment

In FY 2003, 7,062 Michigan residents with disabilities found jobs through MRS.

The average starting wage for the individuals assisted into employment in FY 2004 was \$10.49 an hour.

Estimated Total Annual Earnings of Individuals Assisted into Jobs in FY 2004:



\$131,386,632

Characteristics of Persons Assisted into Jobs in FY 2003 by MRS

Physical Disability	25.8%
Mental Disability	20.3%
Learning Disability	17.8%
Hearing Loss	13.5%
Cognitive Disability	11.4%
Drug Abuse	7.1%
Alcohol Abuse	3.1%
Visual Disability	1.0%
Total	100.0%

MRS Mission & Principles

The mission of Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS) is to assist individuals with disabilities to achieve employment and self-sufficiency.

Principles of MRS

Customer-Centered
Equity
Advocacy
Collaboration
Accountability
Continuous Improvement

The Successes of Rehabilitation Benefit Everyone

FOR PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY, the benefits are employment and a career ... inclusion in the community ... enhanced self-esteem ... self-sufficiency ... and increased spending power.

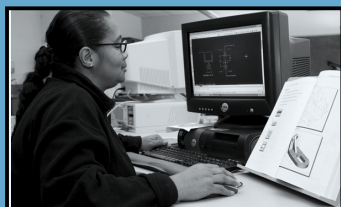
For **employers**, the benefits are qualified workers matched to workplace needs ... post-employment services to

ensure employer satisfaction ... dedicated professionals to assist with disability-related issues ... and reduced worker replacement costs.



For the **taxpayers** of Michigan, the benefits are reduced welfare costs ... reduced costs of institutionalization ... and increased tax revenues.

MCTI Is One of Michigan's Educational Gems



The Michigan Career & Technical Institute (MCTI) is situated on the shores of Pine Lake in southwestern Barry County, 20 miles northeast of Kalamazoo. This state-operated, residential postsecondary school offers 12 career training programs and a full spectrum of support services for Michigan youths and adults with disabilities. The school can accommodate up to 400 students during each 10-week term, with the length of the training programs varying from one term up to two years. The job placement rate for graduates is 85 percent.

MCTI Training Programs

Automotive Technology
Business Support Services
Cabinetmaking/Millwork
Culinary Arts | Custodial | Drafting
Electronics Servicing Technology
Grounds Maintenance/Landscaping
Information Technology
Machine Technology
Nurse Assistant
Printing | Retail Marketing

MCTI Support Services

Career Assessment and Planning
Reading and Math Remediation
High School Completion
Nursing and Psychological Services
Occupational Therapy
Deaf Interpreter Services
Accommodation Services
Job Placement Services
Barrier-free Campus

MRS^{Values} Community Partnerships

MICHIGAN REHABILITATION SERVICES believes that MRS is just part of the "success equation" in assisting people with disabilities into the workforce. MRS has a long tradition of working with partner agencies and organizations to achieve the best possible outcomes for people with disabilities. This is accomplished by focusing on common goals through mutual problem solving, commitment to action, and the sharing of resources.

Three distinct MRS grant programs help to augment collaborative relationships throughout the state:

Community Rehabilitation Program (CRP) grants are awarded each year to establish, develop, or improve community rehabilita-

tion programs and services. In FY 2004, MRS awarded \$1.3 million in CRP grants to 26 partner organizations.



Independent Living (IL)/Independent Living Center (ILC) grants are awarded to help maintain a statewide network of independent living centers, plan and develop new centers, and reimburse individuals for the personal assistance they need to enter and maintain employment. In FY 2004, MRS awarded a total of 44 IL/ILC grants totaling \$5.1 million.

Innovation & Expansion (I & E) grants are awarded for projects that develop or expand innovative approaches to serving persons with disabilities. In FY 2004, MRS awarded 22 I & E grants, totaling \$709,000.

Agencies Referring Persons with Disabilities to MRS in FY 2004

Public Education	24.0%
Other Sources (family member, church, etc.)	21.1%
Medical Agencies/Physicians	20.2%
Self-Referral	16.3%
Community Rehabilitation Programs	6.8%
Michigan Works! Service Centers	4.0%
Social Security Administration	3.6%
Postsecondary Educational Institutions	2.4%
Family Independence Agency	1.6%

Total

100%

Savings in Social Security Benefits

In FY 2004, Michigan Rehabilitation Services assisted 1,869 recipients of Social Security disability benefits into jobs. An annual savings of \$22,325,736 in Social Security benefits has been realized because these individuals are now gainfully employed.



Serving Youths with Disabilities Is an MRS Priority

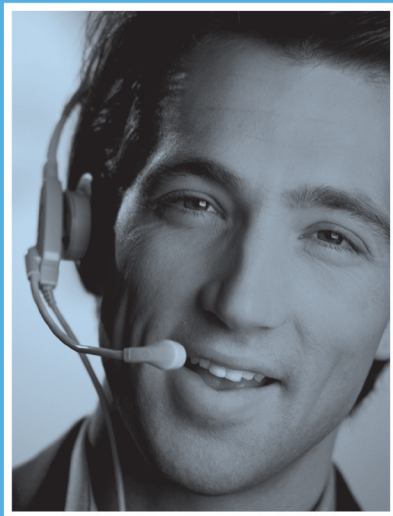
MRS HAS A STRONG COMMITMENT to serving school-age youths with disabilities, ages 16 to 26. Whether in school or out, a young person with any limiting disability may be eligible for assistance to obtain employment. Approximately one-third of MRS's case service budget is dedicated to addressing the needs of young people with disabilities.

MRS works closely with school personnel to make sure



students who need employment-related assistance receive the necessary services. MRS counselors help young people discover their interests and talents, learn about different jobs, participate in on-the-job training, apply for college, prepare a resume, and find a job. More than 1,900 young people with disabilities were assisted into careers during FY 2004 by MRS youth counselors.

Employers with Disability-Related Issues Call on MRS



In FY 2004, more than 2,500 Michigan employers tapped into the resources of MRS for help with disability-related issues.

Services available to employers at no cost:

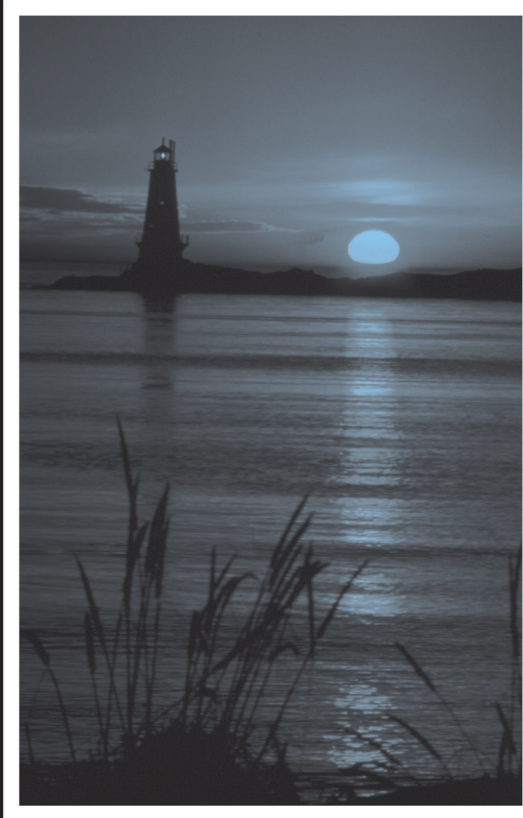
- Referral of qualified, pre-screened job applicants
- Help with retaining valuable workers through reasonable accommodation recommendations, ergonomic assessments, employee counseling, transferable skill analyses, and referrals to other agencies
- Reimbursement for part of the costs of training new workers referred by MRS
- Help with obtaining disability-related tax credits and deductions
- Information on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

Businesses with employees who are receiving disability benefits because of illness or injury can work with the **MRS Disability Management Program** to return these employees to the job. The initial consultation is free. Assistance can include a job analysis to determine if an accommodation will allow return to work, or an analysis of transferable skills to identify other jobs within the company that could be performed within medical restrictions.

A total of 469 Michigan workers with disabilities went back to work in FY 2004 with the help of MRS's Disability Management Program.

Some INTERESTING Facts

- Michigan is home to 1.9 million people with disabilities—one in every five residents.
- The vocational rehabilitation program, which exists in all 50 states, was created by federal legislation in 1920. Michigan Rehabilitation Services currently operates under the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.



- Michigan Rehabilitation Services employs 270 master-degreed rehabilitation counselors who work one-on-one with Michiganders with disabilities who want to go to work.
- MRS provides employment services to people with disabilities in all 83 Michigan counties.
- MRS assists individuals with disabilities in preparing for and finding competitive employment as well as exploring the possibilities of self-employment or owning a small business
- At any one time, MRS's active caseload numbers about 27,000 Michiganders with disabilities.
- The average cost for MRS to assist an individual into employment in FY 2004 was \$3,280.
- The average length of time for an individual to receive services and find job placement through MRS in FY 2004 was 19.4 months.
- The MRS budget for purchasing job-related goods and services for Michiganders with disabilities in FY 2004 was \$39,483,775. These dollars were a combination of \$31,435,822 federal funds, \$2,288,204 state funds, and \$5,759,749 local funds.
- To find the MRS office serving your area, call toll-free 1-800-605-6722 (voice) or 1-888-605-6722 (TTY).



E-Mail: MRS-CustomerAssistance@michigan.gov

**Michigan Rehabilitation Services
Michigan Department of Labor
& Economic Growth**

**P.O. Box 30010 • Lansing, MI 48909
www.michigan.gov/mrs**

The Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Growth does not discriminate on the basis of race, national origin, gender, religion, age, or disability in employment or the provision of services. This brochure will be made available in alternate formats upon request. Reprinted August 2005. 4882-5725. 1204-874-DLEG. Quantity: 8,000 copies. Total Cost of printing: \$769.09; Unit Cost: \$ 0.10